



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

INVESTING IN THE UP

The Whitmer-Gilchrist administration has invested in every region of Michigan to deliver on the kitchen-table issues that matter most to families, communities, and small businesses.

Growing the UP's economy

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) investments:
 - Over \$11 million invested to support over 30 Business Development projects projected to create over 300 jobs and leverage over \$230 million in private investment.
 - Over \$21 million to support over 60 Community Development projects, leveraging more than \$21 million in private investment and reactivating more than 850,000 square feet of public space.
- Delivered \$8 million to support over 400 businesses and retain more than 9,000 jobs through COVID, with 68% of relief going to geographically disadvantaged areas.

Empowering workers in the UP

- 1,064 Michigan Reconnect applicants in the UP are on tuition-free paths to higher education or skills training.
- 1,468 Futures for Frontliners in the UP who served on the frontlines of the pandemic have been accepted to get on tuition-free paths to receiving a diploma or attending community college.
- Created 579 new registered apprenticeships with a focus on supporting opportunities for underrepresented populations: veterans, women, people of color, those with disabilities, and young Michiganders.
- COVID relief:
 - Saved 377 jobs with Workshare program which allowed employees to collect unemployment benefit while working part-time.
 - Set up four virtual job fairs connecting 91 employers to over 150 job-seekers.

Fixing roads, bridges, pipes, and parks in the UP

- Fixed 3,447 lane miles of road and 36 bridges, supporting 3,870 jobs.
- Invested \$17.6 million to upgrade or repair state and local parks.
- Invested nearly \$68 million into water infrastructure in the UP to upgrade sewer systems, replaced lead pipes, and protected safe drinking water for families.

Investing in students and schools in the UP

- Increased per-pupil funding by 16%, or \$1,279, for every student in the Upper Peninsula since taking office.
- Expanded access to free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program to 747 kids in the Upper Peninsula.
- Raised childcare funding per kid in the Upper Peninsula by 132%.

Building housing and keeping families in their homes in the UP

- Constructed 589 affordable, attainable housing units.
- Helped 33 families with mortgages and down payments.
- Kept 4,875 families in their homes with rental assistance.
- Delivered emergency rental assistance to 1,976 families.

Proposals to cut taxes for seniors and working families in the UP

- Governor Whitmer's proposal to roll back the retirement tax would save 18,000 families in the UP an average of \$1,000 a year, putting \$18 million back in people's pockets and the local economy.
- Governor Whitmer's proposal to triple Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit would deliver an average combined tax refund of \$3,000 to 17,100 working families in the UP, putting \$51.3 million in people's pockets and the local economy.

UPDATED: September 6, 2022